

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 18933 102127Z

70

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03

RSR-01 /086 W

----- 044994

R 101915Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1684

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, FR

SUBJ: CIVAIR: NORTH ATLANTIC FARES

1. PANAM INFORMS US HAD LEARNED FROM TWA THAT SGAC WAS "A BIT SHOCKED" THAT NEITHER US CARRIER HAD YET APPRAISED SGAC OF ACTION TAKEN ON NORTH ATLANTIC FARES PURSUANT COST OF LIVING COUNCIL RULING ON APPLICABILITY OF PRICE FREEZE. PANAM PARIS HAS SINCE BEEN INSTRUCTED BY HOME OFFICE TO INFORM SGAC OF NEW FARES APPLICABLE US ORIGIN ROUND-TRIP PAYABLE IN US DOLLARS FOR TRAVEL IN PERIOD JULY 1-AUGUST 13, I.E., 1973 PEAK FARE EASTBOUND AND 1972 PEAK FARE WESTBOUND. HOME OFFICE HAD, HOWEVER, INSTRUCTED THAT CONVEYING OF ABOVE INFO TO SGAC WAS TO BE SPECIFICALLY QUALIFIED AS "NOTIFICATION." PANAM COMMUNICATION TO THAT EFFECT THUS BEING SENT SGAC. WE ASSUME TWA DOING LIKEWISE BUT UNABLE CONFIRM SINCE THEIR OFFICE NOW CLOSED FOR THE DAY.

2. WE HAD PREVIOUSLY QUERIED PANAM ABOUT ANY FOLLOW-UP WITH SGAC AS RESULT PRICE FREEZE AND HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT NO ACTION HAD BEEN TAKEN IN BELIEF SGAC NOT COMPETENT RULE ON US-ORIGIN ROUND-TRIP FARES. PANAM HAS THUS HAD AT LEAST PARTIAL CHANGE OF HEART, THOUGH WHETHER BECAUSE OF KNOWLEDGE OF SGAC ANNOYANCE AT US CARRIERS' SILENCE OR FOR SOME OTHER REASON WE DO NOT KNOW.

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3. IN VIEW POSSIBILITY GOF MIGHT HAVE BEEN TEMPTED FOLLOW UP STRASBOURG RESOLUTION (PARIS 18124) WITH DEMARCH HERE OR THROUGH FRENCH EMBASSY WASHINGTON, EMBASSY HAS EXPRESSLY NOT INITIATED CONTACT WITH SGAC DURING PAST WEEK IN ORDER NOT TO INVITE FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION OF ECAC RESOLUTION AND IMPLICATIONS PRICE FREEZE. WE INFORMED PANAM, HOWEVER, THAT WE WERE TROUBLED BY INDICATION OF SGAC ANNOYANCE AT LACK OF NOTIFICATION OF FARE CHANGES BY US CARRIERS WHICH COULD SIGNIFY (A) MERE PIQUE OR (B) SGAC IMPATIENCE AT NON-RECIPT OF FARE ADJUSTMENT WHICH IT MIGHT INTEND SEEK DISAPPROVE(RECALLING ABRAHAM REACTION REPORTED PARA 6 PARIS 18124 AND UK AND FRG ATTITUDES SINCE REPORTED BY EMBASSIES LONDON AND BONN). PANAM REP ASKED WHETHER UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES EMBASSY RECOMMENDED PANAM FOREGO NOTIFYING SGAC OF FARE ADJUSTMENT. WE REPLIED THAT THIS WAS CERTAINLY NOT QUESTION FOR EMBASSY TO DECIDE, THOUGH WE DID OPINE THAT SEEMED DIFFICULT FLAUNT SGAC WISHES THIS REGARD.

4. WE WILL REMAIN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH US CARRIERS. PLEASE ADVISE PROMPTLY IF ANY APPROACHES MADE DEPARTMENT OR CAB BY FRENCH EMBASSY THIS SUBJECT.

DECONTROLLED DEC. 31, 1973.
IRWIN

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